

## House Republican Press Release

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Press Office: 860-240-8700

### **Reps. Stone, Tymniak Vote for Reforms to Open the System**



#### *Express Disappointment at Majority's Failure to Adopt Proposed Changes*

State Reps. John "Jack" Stone, R-134th and Cathy C. Tymniak, R-133rd, strongly supported a package of legislative reforms to open up the legislative process to greater public view and expressed disappointment that the legislature failed to adopt the changes.

Reps. Tymniak and Stone joined 50 House Republican colleagues in supporting major changes in the joint rules of the state House and Senate, on opening day of the 2005 legislative session. The rules changes included:

- Ending legislative sessions at midnight
- Consolidating the legislature's 27 committees
- Conducting budget negotiations in public
- Requiring legislation to be published 72 hours before a floor vote
- Mandating a public hearing prior to any tax increases

Rep. Tymniak said, "I am extremely disappointed that these reforms failed to pass. They were reasonable amendments to open up the process, especially requiring a public hearing before an taxes can be increased."

Rep. Stone said, "These were very simple changes and common sense suggestions. They would provide for more orderly conduct of the people's business and better disclosure to the public."